

Bill Ardill

From: Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]
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To: ardill-news@sim.org
Subject: a girl and a boy

To start with the weather report, it has been getting warmer and hazier as we enter the heart of the dry season. Some mornings the haze is so thick you can only see a few hundred yards. In Anna's class, the teacher made them dust the desks three times during the school day to get rid of some of the accumulated dust. We are grateful it is warming so we are not so uncomfortably cold in the morning. We anticipate this to continue until late March and April when the first rains come and clear the sky of the dust and bring cooler fresh weather.

We have had double trouble with our internet this week. On our email computer, the wireless adapter stopped working so even though there was a signal, the laptop was not picking it up. So after a friend looked at it for a week, he concluded the wireless adapter card was the problem. During all this, we lost the satellite signal. Usually this is from a mix up in the payment of the satellite fees to the South African company we use for our satellite link. We have inquired but so far no internet at Evangel. So we are on the "sneaker run" system to take our laptop to Hillcrest each day to load and download email and use the internet. Needless to say this is a bit cumbersome, especially since the girls use the internet to do homework assignments and I use it for medical research and continuing education. We hope the problem is fixed soon. Hopefully, some of you will hear from us this week concerning e-mails you sent last week. All our addresses and e-mails were on this computer, so we were not able to respond.

Thanks to those who have expressed an interest in helping toward the autoclave need. We still have a need if others are interested. Amazingly there has been NO progress in getting the renovations done at the operating room so the new autoclave sits in its crate in the parking lot. To say I am frustrated is putting it mildly.

Then we had another baby die this week on the surgical ward and another with complications need additional surgery. I know the Lord uses these experiences in the lives of the patients and their families but for me it is always a humbling experience and reinforces my need for His wisdom in every case and in every encounter.

On a brighter note, Justina, who is the dorm mother at the crisis pregnancy house for girls, visited me at the clinic yesterday. She had with her Rebecca John and her 1 year old daughter. Rebecca is 13 and lives in Miango where we go for the SIM annual conferences. A year ago while staying at her aunt's house, she was raped by her cousin and came in desperation to the ProLife office when she found out she was pregnant. Justina encouraged her to not have an abortion and keep the baby. She delivered fine and now a year later, Rebecca and her baby are doing well. Justina encouraged her family to accept her and help her with the baby so she could continue in school. She was attending the local ECWA church, another amazing thing since most churches would "discipline" her for what had happened and most girls in these situations don't attend church anywhere because of the stigma. So a bright spot in the week and another testimony of the power of Christ and the effectiveness of the ministry of the ProLife center in the lives of these desperate girls and women in this community.

Dorothy had a major incident with the angry boy in her classroom last week. The elementary principal, Linda Taylor, got involved and wrote the child's parents that if the unacceptable behavior continued, they would call the mother every time to take the boy home since it was becoming too disruptive and was consuming too much of Dorothy's time with the other children. The boy's mother came in for a meeting and shared that they have been having problems at home and are considering moving to another city and leaving the boy in a hostel so he can continue going to Hillcrest. It was obvious to Dorothy that this explained the boy's anger and reaction to his parents' decision. He stayed home on Friday and on Monday behaved well. Dorothy feels very sorry for this little boy and prays he will get help with his anger and his parents will make a good decision regarding his schooling and living with them. Thanks for praying.

Thanks for praying and staying in touch.

In Christ,
Bill Ardill

Please reply to <bill.ardill@sim.org>.